## Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15, 16 and 18-43 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested. The Examiner is further requested to contact the applicants' representative by telephone to discuss any issues that may facilitate prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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DKS/cj